

## **WATER CONSERVATION**

### **In the Bathroom**

- Install a water-saving shower head. Older heads use 5-10 gallons per minute (gpm). All new fixtures use approximately 2.5 gpm and offer equal water coverage and force.
- Many high water consumption problems stem from toilets which slowly leak water because of bad valves, improperly positioned float arms or defective overflow tubes. Place dye tablets in your toilet tank. After several minutes if you see the dye enter your toilet bowl you know you have a leak.

### **In the Kitchen**

- Rinse dishes, vegetables and fruits in a filled basin, rather than under running water.
- Water your plants with left-over rinse water. (Plants also love fish tank water!)
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher. Use the "light wash" setting when possible.
- Consider buying a high efficiency dishwasher that will save water and energy.
- Keep a jug of chilled water in the refrigerator for drinking to avoid running the water until it gets cold.

### **In the Laundry**

- Wash only full loads of clothing.
- Hand wash single garments.
- Consider buying a high efficiency washing machine that will save water and energy.

### **In the Garden**

- Select plants carefully. Read the plant tag, it tells you the amount of sunlight and water the plant needs as well as the recommended soil conditions.
- Plants that require partial shade do best on eastern exposures where they are shaded from the hot afternoon sun.
- Consider the slope and drainage patterns of the site. Plant moisture-loving plants at the base of slopes where they can take advantage of natural drainage.

- Group plants in the landscape according to their water need: high, medium or low. This will result in more efficient irrigation. Water the root zone of the plant instead of the foliage. This saves water and reduces diseases.
- Water at night or in early morning to avoid losing water to evaporation.
- Water deeply. Light, frequent watering causes shallow rooting and increases the need for water.
- Use drip irrigation and micro-sprays when possible. They use 30 to 50 percent less water than sprinklers.

## **URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Similarly, the District is also preparing an update to its Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The UWMP evaluates existing and future water supplies and demands for the next 20 years. This year's update also includes the State law to achieve a 20% reduction in water used per person, also known as the "20 by 2020" law. Due to the conservation efforts of the District's customers, the 20% reduction was already achieved in 2009 and 2010. However, continued diligence is needed as some of the reduction may have been due to economic effects and above-average rainfall last year.

## **EASY PAY / ONLINE / PHONE BILL PAY**

Our payment alternatives, "Easy Pay", "Online" and "Phone" have provided customers with simple, safe, and convenient alternatives to mailing or hand delivering payment for their water bills. For information on how to get started with either "Easy Pay" or "Online Bill Pay", look for more information in your bill or "on-line" at **[www.lhmwd.org](http://www.lhmwd.org)**. To pay by phone with your credit or debit card, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or check, call 1-877-543-8358, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also contact the District office at 951-658-3241 to pay by phone with credit or debit card during office hours.

# WATER QUALITY REPORT

## GARNER VALLEY

In 2013, as in previous years, your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. Lake Hemet Municipal Water District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. For more information about your water, call 951-658-3241 and ask for Robert W. Norman.

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entiende bien. 951-658-3241**

The District's Board of Directors meets the third Thursday of every month at the main office, located at 26385 Fairview Avenue, at 3:00 PM. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Your water comes from six wells located in Garner Valley. Source water assessments\* completed between 2002 and 2010 found the sources to be most vulnerable to animal operations, low density septic systems, and historic waste/dump landfills. Water from the well is disinfected with chlorine to protect you against microbial contaminants.

The attached tables list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the most recent sampling. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that your water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791.)

## Terms & abbreviations used:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial
- **Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standard (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of the contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **n/a:** not applicable; **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation); **umhos/cm:** a measure of electrical conductance; **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (a contaminant at 2 ppm equals 0.000002 gallon of contaminant in 1 gallon of water); **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (a contaminant at 7 ppb equals 0.00000007 gallon of contaminant in 1 gallon of water) ; **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lake Hemet MWD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking and cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Copies of the completed assessments are available at Department of Health Services, Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, 1350 Front Street, Room 2050, San Diego, CA 92101 or at Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, 26385 Fairview Avenue, Hemet, CA 92544. You may request summaries of the assessments be sent to you by contacting CDPH at 619-525-4159 or Robert W. Norman at 951-658-3241.

**LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**  
**Garner Valley System 3310052**

| Detected Contaminants with Primary MCLs or MRDLs                  |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Microbiological (2012)  |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Contaminant   | Highest No. of Detections | PHG (MCLG)  | MCL  | No. of Months in Violation     | Major Sources in Drinking Water      |   |  |
| Total Coliform Bacteria (Total Coliform Rule)                     | 0                         | (0)         | More than 1 sample in a month with a detection | 0                              | Naturally present in the environment |   |  |
| Inorganics (2010 – 2012)  |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Contaminant   | Units                     | PHG (MCLG)  | MCL  | Range                          | Average                              | Major Sources in Drinking Water   |  |
| Aluminum (2010-2011)  | Ppm                       | 0.6         | 1  | ND – 0.11                      | 0.02                                 | Erosion of natural deposits   |  |
| Arsenic (2010-2011)   | ppb                       | 0.004       | 10   | ND – 2.9                       | 0.48                                 | Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder                                   |  |
| Fluoride (2010-2011)  | ppm                       | 1           | 2.0  | 0.3 – 1.2                      | 0.52                                 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive promoting strong teeth  |  |
| Nitrate (2012)  | ppm                       | 45 (as NO3) | 45 (as NO3)                                    | ND – 9.7                       | 3.2                                  | Runoff & leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks & sewage; erosion of natural deposits               |  |
| Radiochemicals (2004 – 2011)                                      |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Contaminant   | Units                     | PHG (MCLG)  | MCL  | Range                          | Average                              | Major Sources in Drinking Water   |  |
| Gross Alpha Particle Activity                                     | pCi/L                     | (0)         | 15   | ND – 5.6                       | 1.9                                  | Erosion of natural deposits.  |  |
| Uranium   | pCi/L                     | 0.43        | 20   | ND – 2.9                       | 0.43                                 | Erosion of natural deposits.  |  |
| Disinfection By products and Chlorine Residual (2012)             |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Contaminant   | Units                     | PHG [MRDLG] | MCL [MRDL]                                     | Range                          | Highest Annual Avg.                  | Major Sources in Drinking Water   |  |
| Total Trihalomethanes   | ppb                       | n/a         | 80   | 1.5                            | 1.5                                  | By-product of drinking water disinfection.  |  |
| Haloacetic Acids  | ppb                       | n/a         | 60   | NA-4.1                         | 4.1                                  | By-product of drinking water disinfection.  |  |
| Chlorine Residual   | ppm                       | [4 as Cl2]  | [4.0 as Cl2]                                   | 1.0 – 1.5                      | 1.15                                 | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.  |  |
| Lead and Copper - Distribution System Tap Sampling (2011)         |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Contaminant   | Units                     | PHG         | AL   | 90th percentile Level Detected | No. of Samples Collected             | No. of Sites > AL   | Major Sources in Drinking Water  |
| Copper  | ppm                       | 0.3         | 1.3  | 1.0                            | 5                                    | 1   | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. |
| Lead  | ppb                       | 0.2         | 15   | <5                             | 5                                    | 0   | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. |
| Detected Contaminants with Secondary MCLs (2010 – 2012)           |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Constituent   | Units                     | PHG (MCLG)  | SMCL   | Range                          | Average                              | Typical Source of Contaminant   |  |
| Specific Conductance  | uS/cm                     | n/a         | 1600   | 380 – 540                      | 455                                  | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence   |  |
| Total Dissolved Solids  | ppm                       | n/a         | 1000   | 220 – 300                      | 248                                  | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.  |  |
| Color   | Unit                      | n/a         | 15   | ND – 5                         | 1.3                                  | Naturally occurring organic materials.  |  |
| Iron  | ppb                       | n/a         | 300  | ND – 120                       | 20                                   | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.   |  |
| Chloride  | ppm                       | n/a         | 500  | 17 – 28                        | 22                                   | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.  |  |
| Sulfate   | ppm                       | n/a         | 500  | 21 – 81                        | 50                                   | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.   |  |
| Turbidity – Source  | NTU                       | n/a         | 5  | ND – 2.8                       | 1.1                                  | Soil runoff.  |  |
| Other Detected Constituents That May Be Of Interest (2010 – 2011) |                           |             |  |                                |                                      |   |  |
| Constituent   | Units                     | PHG (MCLG)  | MCL  | Range                          | Average                              | Typical Source of Contaminant   |  |
| Total Hardness  | ppm                       | n/a         | n/a  | 9.4 – 130                      | 50.6                                 | Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring. |  |
| PH  | Std Units                 | n/a         | n/a  | 7.3 – 9.2                      | 8.36                                 |   |  |
| Calcium   | ppm                       | n/a         | n/a  | 3.6 – 43                       | 17.4                                 |   |  |
| Magnesium   | ppm                       | n/a         | n/a  | ND – 6.5                       | 1.6                                  |   |  |
| Potassium   | ppm                       | n/a         | n/a  | ND – 1.9                       | 0.48                                 |   |  |
| Sodium  | ppm                       | n/a         | n/a  | 2.8 – 100                      | 63.3                                 | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.   |  |
| Bicarbonate   | ppm                       | n/a         | n/a  | 120 – 160                      | 140                                  |   |  |

# Garner Valley System 3310052

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Lake Hemet Municipal Water District is to produce and deliver high quality water to our customers for domestic and agricultural use, to provide sewer collection services and to maintain Lake Hemet as a clean safe water reservoir and recreational facility, in an economical, efficient and responsible manner now and in the future.



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## 2012 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT